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PATENT
Atty. Docket No. FJN-060DV
(3999/63)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Goto et al.
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/062,113 GROUP NUMBER: 1647
FILING DATE: April 17, 1998 EXAMINER: Romeo, D.
TITLE: NOVEL PROTEINS AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING THE
PROTEINS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on August 6, 2001. Applicants believe that no fees are due. Should Applicants be in error, please consider this paper a conditional petition for an extension of time and conditional authorization to charge deposit account number 20-0531.

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 32-34 and 41-46 are pending in this application.

Allowable Claims

Applicants acknowledge allowance of claims 32, 34, 41, 43, 44 and 46.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 33, 42 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 33, 42 and 45 recite "an isolated protein encoded by polynucleotide of SEQ. ID NOS. 83, 86 and 87. According to the Office Action, in view of the use of the indefinite article, the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claim is that it is directed to an isolated protein